



Public involvement. Public education. Public benefit.

**Online No Child Left Behind Survey
Responses from Massachusetts vs. the National Average**

From what you have heard about NCLB, do you believe that you:		
	Mass.	National
Know Nothing or Little About the Law	8%	7%
Know About Some of the Provisions of the Law	55%	59%
Have An In-Depth Knowledge of the Law	37%	35%

From what you know about NCLB, what is your opinion of the law?		
	Mass.	National
I Support the Law As It Is Without Changes: Stay the Course	3%	2%
I Support the Purposes of the Law, But Believe That It Requires Changes	77%	65%
I Do Not Support the Law At All	18%	31%
I Have No Opinion	3%	2%

One of the major goals of NCLB is to close the academic achievement gap among children of different racial, ethnic, or economic groups. Select those provisions of the law that are essential in closing the gap.

	Mass.	National
Highly Qualified Teachers	85%	80%
Rigorous academic standards	49%	51%
Tests aligned with standards	42%	44%
Testing of students in grades 3-8, and once in high school	24%	27%
Reporting of test scores for groups of students based on race and ethnicity, income, English language proficiency, and disability	31%	31%
Publication of test scores and other data about district and school performance	24%	26%
Strong parental involvement	89%	88%
Adequate funding and resources	97%	92%
Ability of a child to transfer to another public school if their school does not meet state academic expectations	34%	29%
Tutoring for students in schools that do not meet state academic standards	80%	69%

NCLB currently requires that all children in grades 3 through 8, plus one grade level in high school, be tested in reading and math. Does NCLB require too much testing, too little, just right?

	Mass.	National
Too much	60%	65%
Too little	10%	9%
Just right	20%	16%
Don't know	11%	10%

Do you believe that these testing and reporting requirements... (Select all that apply)

	Mass.	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	63%	54%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	34%	32%
Have motivated your community and parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	23%	20%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	30%	23%
Not sure	23%	29%

Do you agree that states and school districts should be required to report test scores for students by certain characteristics, including disability, income, English language proficiency, and race/ethnicity?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	22%	20%
Agree	30%	34%
Disagree	18%	17%
Strongly disagree	16%	18%
Not sure	15%	10%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if the entire student body needs academic improvement?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	1%	1%
Agree	5%	4%
Disagree	27%	21%
Strongly disagree	62%	71%
Not sure	4%	2%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if individual students are performing satisfactorily?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	1%	2%
Agree	11%	7%
Disagree	27%	28%
Strongly disagree	56%	61%
Not sure	4%	2%

Currently, NCLB requires testing at only one grade level in high school. There are proposals to have NCLB testing in high school in reading, science and math, and at every grade level. Do you agree that there should be additional NCLB testing in high school?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	10%	10%
Agree	23%	21%
Disagree	24%	23%
Strongly disagree	34%	37%
Not sure	10%	9%

How would you rate the teachers in your local schools? Do your local schools have:

	Mass.	National
No qualified teachers	0%	0%
Some qualified teachers	15%	15%
Many qualified teachers	49%	55%
All qualified teachers	24%	23%
I have no way of judging	12%	7%

Do you believe that, by the end of this school year, every school will meet the NCLB requirement that all teachers must be qualified in the core subjects that they teach?

	Mass.	National
Strongly believe	3%	7%
Believe	18%	19%
Disbelieve	40%	38%
Strongly disbelieve	25%	26%
Not sure	15%	10%

Currently, states have different definitions of what it means to be a “highly qualified teacher.” In judging whether a teacher is highly qualified, which of the following qualities do you believe to be most important? (For each, indicate a number between 1 and 5, with 1 for least important and 5 for most important.)

	1	2	3	4	5
Knows the subject matter	0% (2)	1% (1)	8% (4)	29% (20)	61%
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	1% (2)	0% (0)	3% (1)	8% (9)	88%
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	0% (1)	1% (2)	13% (10)	35% (28)	51% (58)
Sensitive to and respects students' diverse cultural backgrounds	3% (2)	0% (3)	14% (11)	22% (26)	62% (58)
Has passed license requirements mandated by the state	0% (4)	8% (5)	25% (19)	25% (25)	42% (47)
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	0% (1)	4% (2)	15% (8)	38% (29)	43%
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	1% (2)	0% (1)	10% (5)	16% (20)	73% (72)

How important is it to have a highly qualified teacher in every classroom?

	Mass.	National
Very important	69%	68%
Important	30%	29%
Unimportant	0%	2%
Very unimportant	1%	1%
No opinion	0%	1%

Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?

	Mass.	National
Strongly support	70%	60%
Support	26%	33%
Oppose	3%	3%
Strongly oppose	0%	1%
No opinion	1%	3%

**What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance?
(Please check all that apply)**

	Mass.	National
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	28%	28%
Information about the performance of my school	64%	74%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	57%	66%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	62%	64%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	28%	39%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	8%	18%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	16%	25%
None of the above	22%	14%

**How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district?
(Please check all that apply)**

	Mass.	National
From my school or school district	47%	65%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	7%	10%
From the media	51%	53%
By mail	24%	26%
By e-mail	8%	13%
By phone	6%	3%
Sent home with my child	29%	32%
On the school or school district website	29%	39%
In local newspapers	60%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	15%	22%
Other	11%	13%

Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?

	Mass.	National
Too much	6%	13%
Just enough	32%	42%
Not enough	41%	31%
I am not getting information	12%	8%
Don't know	10%	6%

Do you agree that the information that you receive about the performance of schools in your district is presented in a language and format that you can understand and easily use?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	15%	18%
Agree	47%	50%
Disagree	18%	17%
Strongly disagree	8%	6%
Not sure	11%	9%

How strongly do you believe that the assessment data from test scores will lead to school improvement?

	Mass.	National
Strongly agree	5%	4%
Agree	30%	28%
Disagree	39%	39%
Strongly disagree	16%	23%
Not sure	10%	6%

Have schools in your community been labeled as “in need of improvement” or “failing” because of NCLB?

	Mass.	National
None	18%	20%
A few	49%	45%
Many	11%	19%
Not sure	23%	16%

**Have you been asked to become involved in any of the following activities related to NCLB?
(Please check all that apply)**

	Mass.	National
Developing state standards	4%	5%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	1%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	3%	3%
Developing the district Title I parent involvement policy	0%	4%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	3%	6%
Making recommendations for what constitutes a "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB	1%	3%
Participating in the improvement teams for schools that were identified as needing improvement	7%	11%
None of the above	89%	81%

How satisfied are you with your school/district's efforts to engage you and/or your community?

	Mass.	National
Very satisfied	5%	17%
Satisfied	39%	35%
Dissatisfied	18%	21%
Very dissatisfied	18%	13%
No opinion	20%	15%

NCLB gives students that attend low-performing schools the choice to transfer to another public school within the school district. How much do you think this option will help students perform better academically?

	Mass.	National
It will help a great deal	11%	8%
It will help a little	34%	25%
It will have no effect	23%	28%
It will have a detrimental effect	22%	28%
Not sure	11%	10%

NCLB gives students attending low-performing schools the chance to receive tutoring after school to help them meet academic standards. How much do you think this will help students perform better academically?

	Mass.	National
It will help a great deal	46%	41%
It will help a little	47%	48%
It will have no effect	1%	6%
It will have a detrimental effect	1%	1%
Not sure	4%	3%

During the 2006 elections, is it important to you that candidates for office:

	Mass.	National
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	4%	4%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	70%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	26%	37%
Makes no difference to me	0%	3%